

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF SOVIET PLENARY STATEMENT OF APRIL
14, 1976 (SALT TWO - 981)

1. THE STATEMENT, FOR THE MOST PART, IS KEYED TO THE US STATE-
MENT OF APRIL 7. THE STATEMENT POINTS OUT AREAS WHERE THE SIDES
AGREE IN THEIR OVERALL APPROACHES TO MIRV VERIFICATION. ON THE
BASIS OF THE STATEMENT IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE SIDES ARE IN
AGREEMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

(A) NEWLY CONSTRUCTED MIRV LAUNCHERS WILL COUNT IN THE FINAL
STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION AS NOTED IN ARTICLE VI, PARAGRAPHS
1(B) AND 2.

(B) CERTAIN ARMS INCLUDED IN THE 2400 AGGREGATE BUT NOT IN
THE 1320 AGGREGATE, MAY BE CONVERTED SO AS TO BECOME SUBJECT
TO THE 1320 AGGREGATE, AND THERE SHOULD BE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE
AS TO WHEN SUCH CONVERTED ARMS WOULD BECOME SUBJECT TO THE 1320
AGGREGATE.

(C) ONCE ARMS ARE INCLUDED IN THE 1320 AGGREGATE, THEY WILL
BE SUBJECT TO THAT LIMITATION UNTIL DISMANTLED, DESTROYED OR
OTHERWISE CEASE TO BE SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH PROCEDURES TO BE DEVELOPED BY THE SCC (PARAGRAPH
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3 OF ARTICLE VI). HOWEVER, THE SOVIET STATEMENT WENT ON TO ADD

"IN THIS CONNECTION IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE A CORRESPONDING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING REGARDING A SITUATION INVOLVING CONVERSION OF A LAUNCHER WITH A MISSILE EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS INTO ONE FOR A MISSILE WITH A SINGLE REENTRY VEHICLE OR FOR A MISSILE WITH MRVS." (THIS MAY FORECAST A SOFTER SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR DEMIRVING THAN FOR DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF ICBM LAUNCHERS.)

2. ONE SIGNIFICANT POINT IN SOVIET STATEMENT IS AN OFFER TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO PROCEDURES FOR CONVERSION IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE XVII (THE SCC ARTICLE). HERETOFORE THE SOVIETS HAVE RESISTED US ATTEMPTS TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO PROCEDURES FOR CONVERSION IN ARTICLE SVII.

3. THIS STATEMENT, AS WELL AS SOVIET STATEMENT OF MARCH 31, MAKES NO REFERENCE TO US MIRV COUNTING RULE IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF ARTICLE II (I.E., ONCE TESTED ALL MIRVED). HOWEVER, THE SOVIET STATEMENT DID STATE THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION PROCEEDS FROM THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE US PROTOCOL AND FORMULATION FOR PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE V ARE TO BE DELETED FROM THE JDT.

4. I PLAN TO KEY MY STATEMENT TOMORROW TO THE SOVIET STATEMENT. ALSO I WILL SHORTLY BE FORWARDING BY SEPTTEL A PROPOSAL FOR RULES TO BE INCLUDED IN PARAGRAPH 2, ARTICLE VI, WHICH WILL STATE WHEN ARMS BEING CONVERTED WILL BECOME SUBJECT TO THE MIRV LIMITATION. JOHNSON

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NNN

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